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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/644,186	08/20/2003	Rita J. Klein	2269-4377.3US (99-1120.03)	5692
24247	7590	04/11/2005		EXAMINER
TRASK BRITT P.O. BOX 2550 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84110			LE, THAO P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2818	

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/644,186	KLEIN, RITA J. 
Examiner	Art Unit	
Thao P. Le	2818	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 18-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 August 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal disclaimer filed on 03/17/05 has been approved.

Claims 1-21 are pending. The Remarks made on 03/17/05 has been considered, and the previous rejection has been withdrawn.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wright et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,332,646.

Regarding claims 18, 20, Wright et al. discloses an electroless plating bath for depositing an oxidation barrier on a device, the bath comprises at least one metal salt (palladium or platinum) and at least one substance that alters a grain structure of a metal of the at least one metal salt, the substance is a reducing agent selected from the group of sodium borohydride, hydrazine etc... (Col. 4). It is inherent that the reducing agent used in reduction of metal to its elemental state alters a grain structure of the metal of the at least one metal salt.

Regarding claim 19, Wright et al. discloses the metal salt is selected from at least one of palladium or platinum (abstract).

Claims 18, 20, 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Maruta, U.S. Patent No. 4,329,207.

Regarding claims 18, 20, Maruta discloses an electroless plating bath for depositing an oxidation barrier on a device, the bath comprising an metal salt and at least one substance that alters a grain structure of a metal of the at least one metal salt, the substance that alters a grain structure of a metal salt is hydrazine (abstract).

Regarding claim 21, Maruta discloses the electroless plating bath further comprises a complexing agent (Cols. 1-2).

Claims 1-17 are allowed.

Reason for allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

Claims 1-17 are considered allowable since none of the references of record teaches or suggests the claimed limitations having a semiconductor device or method of forming the semiconductor device comprising an oxidation barrier, the oxidation barrier comprising a doped metal or doped metal alloy layer co-deposited by electroless plating.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thao P. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-1785. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T (7-6).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on 571-272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thao P. Le
Examiner
Art Unit 2818